

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method for enabling a transcoding proxy server to utilize an annotation rule set in order to transcode a web page for a portable computing device, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) a transcoding proxy server receiving a web page request from a portable computing device;

10 (b) said transcoding proxy server transmitting said web page request to a server computer coupled to said transcoding proxy server;

(c) said transcoding proxy server receiving from said server computer a web page element corresponding to said web page request;

15 (d) said transcoding proxy server locating a first annotation rule set that corresponds to said web page request, wherein said first annotation rule set is distinct from a transcoding functionality utilized by said transcoding proxy server; and

(e) said transcoding proxy server transcoding said web page element for said portable computing device by following said first annotation rule set and utilizing said transcoding functionality.

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2. The method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(f) said transcoding proxy server receiving and storing a second annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

3. The method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(f) editing said first annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

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4. The method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(f) deleting a second annotation rule set stored by said transcoding proxy server while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

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5. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said portable computing device comprises a personal digital assistant (PDA).

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6. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said portable computing device comprises a mobile phone.

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7. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said portable computing device comprises a pager.

8. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first annotation rule set is extensible.

9. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first annotation rule set comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that corresponds to said web page request.

5 10. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page object.

11. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page layout.

10 12. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein said portable computing device has limited display capability.

13. A computer readable medium having computer readable code embodied
15 therein for causing a transcoding proxy computer to perform the steps of:

(a) receiving a web page request from a portable computing device;

(b) transmitting said web page request to a server computer coupled to said transcoding proxy computer;

(c) receiving from said server computer a web page element corresponding to
20 said web page request;

(d) locating a first annotation rule set that corresponds to said web page request, wherein said first annotation rule set is distinct from transcoding functionality utilized by said transcoding proxy server; and

(e) transcoding said web page element for said portable computing device by following said first annotation rule set and utilizing said transcoding functionality.

14. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 further comprising the step of:

(f) said transcoding proxy server receiving and storing a second annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

15. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 further comprising the step of:

(f) editing said first annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

16. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 further comprising the step of:

(f) deleting a second annotation rule set stored by said transcoding proxy server while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

17. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said portable computing device comprises a personal digital assistant (PDA).

18. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said portable computing device comprises a mobile phone.

19. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said portable computing device comprises a pager.

5 20. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said first annotation rule set is extensible.

21. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said first annotation rule set comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that corresponds to said web page request.

22. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said first annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page object.

23. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said first annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page layout.

20 24. The computer readable medium as described in Claim 13 wherein said portable computing device has limited display capability.

25. A method for enabling a transcoding proxy server to utilize an annotation rule set in order to transcode a web page for a personal digital assistant, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) a transcoding proxy server receiving a web page request from a personal digital assistant;

(b) said transcoding proxy server transmitting said web page request to a server computer coupled to said transcoding proxy server;

(c) said transcoding proxy server receiving from said server computer a web page element corresponding to said web page request;

(d) said transcoding proxy server locating a first extensible annotation rule set that corresponds to said web page request, wherein said first extensible annotation rule set is distinct from a transcoding functionality utilized by said transcoding proxy server; and

(e) said transcoding proxy server transcoding said web page element for said personal digital assistant by following said first extensible annotation rule set and utilizing said transcoding functionality.

26. The method as described in Claim 25 further comprising the step of:

(f) said transcoding proxy server receiving and storing a second extensible annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

27. The method as described in Claim 25 further comprising the step of:

(f) editing said first extensible annotation rule set while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

5 28. The method as described in Claim 25 further comprising the step of:

(f) deleting a second extensible annotation rule set stored by said transcoding proxy server while said transcoding proxy server is operating.

29. The method as described in Claim 25 wherein said first extensible

10 annotation rule set comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that corresponds to said web page request.

30. The method as described in Claim 25 wherein said first extensible

15 annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page object.

31. The method as described in Claim 25 wherein said first extensible

annotation rule set corresponds to a class of web pages that all share a common web page layout.